

Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island

Executive Committee Minutes

January 6, 2009

Present: Steve Kitchin, Michael Cassidy, Pat Talin, Cynthia Farrell, and Paul Ouellette.

Guests: Mavis McGetrick and John O'Hare. Staff: Christine Grieco and Gail DuPont.

Absent: Paul Harden

With a quorum present, Chair Steve Kitchin called the meeting to order at approximately 8:07 a.m. and asked everyone to review the minutes from the previous meeting on November 5, 2008. Steve Kitchin noted the names of two board prospects were misspelled. The minutes will be corrected.

VOTE: Pat Talin motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Mike Cassidy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Steve reported the Governor's Workforce Board and Workforce Solutions of Providence Cranston have invited Workforce Partnership of Greater Rhode Island to discuss the possibility of a joint annual meeting. A meeting has been scheduled for January 23rd to discuss the option of one big event. Steve announced the Department of

Labor and Training has selected Christine Grieco as Executive Director of WPGRI. The Board will be asked endorse the appointment at their meeting on January 13, 2009. The National Association of Workforce Boards Forum will be held in Washington, D.C. on March 7-10, 2009, Steve Kitchin, Paul Ouellette, and Christine Grieco will be attending.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Christine declared that four of the five positions for WPGRI staff have been posted by the Department of Labor and Training and will be filled shortly.

Chris referred everyone to the Technical Assistance Plan Program for Youth in their packets. She explained that in PY07 the program failed in the Younger Youth Retention Rate section and appears that failure could occur in PY08 as well. This plan procedure involves the State Investment Office providing technical assistance outlined in the enclosed letter. Carlos Ribeiro will meet with Donna Treglia (SWIO) in January for the first technical review.

One-Stop Contract Modification. Christine requests approval to modify the WIA Services Agreement in order to transfer \$400,000 to the One-Stop Centers. This funding would allow additional core and intensive services to meet the increasing customer demands. Steve stated

this would be Modification #5. Steve requested these changes be

reviewed by the Strategic Development Committee before the Executive Committee takes this request under consideration.

VOTE: Steve Kitchen motioned to refer the modification plan proposal to the Strategic Development Committee for review then back to Executive Committee before being presented to the full board in February. Paul Ouellette seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

WIA Plan Modification #4. Christine referred to the Plan Modification in their packets. This modification increases the ITA funding cap to \$5,500, allocates funding and projected service levels for adults, dislocated workers and youth, and outlines partnerships with high-growth industries specifically, ISDI partnerships.

VOTE: Pat Talin moved to accept the WIA Plan Modification #4 as presented. Michael Cassidy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

OJT Draft Model. Chris reminded everyone that the previous model was not approved due to concerns that the model was limited to only a few industries. This draft document has been updated to include other industries that have their own organizations. The phrase “high growth and/or high wage occupations” has also been added. It is felt these changes will allow other industries to apply for On-The-Job Training programs.

VOTE: Pat Talin motioned to accept the OJT program model and implementation of the model as described and recommended approval by the board. Mike Cassidy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Development Paul Ouellette reported the names of six (6) prospective board members have been submitted to the governor for his approval. Vacancies still occur in the finance and defense sectors. Diane Cook now represents TANF, Food Stamps and the Veterans sector has been assigned to Kim Weiss. Due to resignations and consolidations of positions, the committee is recommending reducing the board size to 37. An orientation for new board members will be scheduled once the vacant positions have been approved.

VOTE: Pat Talin motioned to reduce the size of the board from 39 to 37. Cynthia Farrell seconded. The motion recommending Board approval passed unanimously.

At this time, Vice-Chair Paul Ouellette assumed the duties of chair as Steve had to leave for another meeting.

Youth Council Cynthia Farrell said a recent RFP produced 42 high quality proposals. She reported the twenty readers found the new

scoring process easier. Carlos will be meeting with the 40 qualifying vendors to negotiate the budget.

Quality Assurance Mike Cassidy said he is waiting to receive the updated quarterly performance reports and will report at the board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to come before the committee.

Cynthia Farrell motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:10 A.M. Pat Talin seconded. The motioned was passed unanimously.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for February 3, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail DuPont

Administrative Assistant